

The Beachcomber

Dune Acres, IN Summer 2007

www.duneacres.org

ABOUT TOWN

THERE'S STILL TIME TO RUN...

for Town Council or Clerk-Treasurer.

Following is an abridged recap of the Election article that appeared in the last issue.

This November 6th at the General Election, DA will elect three Town Council Members and one Clerk-Treasurer, each for a four year term of office. The term will start on January 1, 2008. Since we have no Districts or Precincts in Town, all are elected on an "At Large" basis. To be eligible to run for office, one must be a registered voter in DA *and* reside in DA. (Indiana Code IC 3-8-6-14)

If you are interested in becoming an Independent Candidate for Town Council or Clerk-Treasurer, you must declare your candidacy by filing forms **CAN-44** (Petition of Nomination) and **CAN-45** (Consent of Independent Party Candidate Nominated by Petition) with the Porter County Registration Office, Suite 105, Porter County Administration Center, 155 Indiana Ave, Valparaiso, IN by noon, July 2, 2007. These forms are available at the Voter Registration Office or from the DA Web site, www.duneacres.org.

Form **CAN-44** requires the candidate seeking nomination to acquire signatures from two registered voters who are qualified to vote for the candidate at the time of signing the petition. However, it is strongly recommended that you obtain at least **four qualified signatures** in case one or more of the signatures cannot be certified by the Registration Office.

If only three candidates declare for the three Town Council positions and only one candidate declares for the Clerk-Treasurer, no election will be held as there is no contest. If there are more candidates, then all names will appear on the ballot and the election will be held on November 6, 2007.

You may withdraw your petition of nomination by noon, July 16, 2007; otherwise your name will appear on the ballot. Further

details of the election process may be found in the Indiana Code IC 3-8-6.

We hope that you will take action and get involved with our Town Government. Since we have fewer permanent, voting residents, our pool of volunteers to lead our community has decreased. We want and need for you to get involved. The election process is a terrific way for you to show your leadership and help keep DA a viable community.

Your Town Council, Ben, Lou and John



RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay for Life is a community based effort organized to help in one fight against cancer. It is comprised of teams walking or running around a track through the night to signify that cancer never sleeps. The event is highlighted by a survivor dinner and luminaria ceremony of hope. The intent is to raise funds and awareness on the battle for prevention, early detection, treatment and patient support.

July 14, 2006 marked the first Duneland Relay for Life. It was held at the Chesterton Middle School track with six teams participating. Sand Creek Country Club/LEL prepared a dinner for survivors and caretakers as well as breakfast for all the following morning. The Dune Acres Team of 16 members raised over \$3,000 in less than three weeks. Our Town Council provided us with a canopy shelter. There were games and activities, music and food throughout the night. Rick Demkovich, Dave Rearick and Gary Tyrrell walked the wee hours from midnight to 4AM assuring our presence on the track at all times.

Last week a letter detailing our fundraising efforts was circulated to all residents. It is our hope that each of you will consider supporting the cause either physically or financially or both.

There will be a meeting for the DA Team on Saturday, June 30, 10am at the Town Hall. Please join us.

Carol Cornwell

DACIF NOTES

Many thanks to the below listed for their generous contributions to the Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation in 2006. Without your support it is certain that Dune Acres would become a much less wonderful place.

Ambrozaitis, Dr. K
Belluschi, M/M Anthony
Berger, Geraldine
Bolton, M/M Ben
Bomberger, M/M Peter
Bradshaw, M/M Benjamin
Brannan, Richard
Carlson, M/M Stephen
Chuman, Drs Charles & Mary
DeVogue, M/M Henry
Dickey, Jane
Dunne, Jane
Dyerly, M/M Rodney
Evans, M/M Robert
Flanagan, Nancy
Gourley, M/M Donald
Haffner, Charles
Hagen, Laura
Hand, M/M Elbert
Hayes, M/M Charles
Heenan, Jane
Holman, Carol
Jaras, Dr/M Frank
Kelley, M/M Carl
Klein, M/M Todd
Koehler, M/M Donald
Krug, Pat
Lapinski, M/M Michael
LeDuc, John Andre
Lieu, M/M James
Martin, M/M James
McCarthy, John
McDowell, M/M Keith
McGinn, M/M Bernard
Mellen, M/M Louis III
Mervine, Judith
Murphy, M/M Jerry
Myers, M/M Kermit
Petrakis, M/M Harry
Plampin, Barbara
Powers, Joanne
Quinn, M/M William J
Read, Dr/M James
Ritchie, Tim
Roberts, M/M Thomas
Rockey, M/M Keith
Saphir, M/M John
Schrage, Linus

Silverman, M/M Howard
Snyder, Sharon
Spence, M/M William
Straus, M/M Francis
Sullivan, M/M John
Swoger, M/M Jeffrey
Taylor, M/M Richard
Thomas, Bonnie
Tittle, M/M Ray
Tolley, M/M George
Treister, Dr/M Michael
Vittum, M/M Daniel
Wahlers, M/M Al
Wilhelm, M/M John

The focus of the Foundation over the past year has been the proposed Clubhouse restoration, and specifically, its cost and funding. In anticipation of contributing to the restoration, the Foundation in 2006 raised about \$4,600 through the Rummage Sale and Winter Benefit. The bid packages for the Clubhouse restoration are about prepared and will soon be sent to a list of proposed contractors. After the bids have been received we will have a better idea of what the real costs will be.

Additionally, other projects funded in 2006:

- Beachcomber
- Buoys at the beach
- Installation of Christmas decorations in the Town Park
- Landscaping at the Clubhouse
- Removal of invasive plants throughout the Town
- Benches in Margaret Doyle Garden at the Clubhouse
- Tennis court repairs

In closing, again thank you all for your contributions. The Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation is an organization for the betterment of the Town. Please feel free to direct any suggestions or ideas to any of the Foundation's board.

John Sullivan

KEY POINTS: PARKING ORDINANCE

The complete ordinance is available at www.duneacres.org/announcements.htm

Section 34-19 Intent to limit parking. Parking is limited on Town roads, easements and designated parking areas to those vehicles possessing currently issued Parking Permits for DA Property Owners.

Section 34-20 Parking Permits Issued. Vehicle Parking Permits are sold only to DA Property Owners.

Section 34-22 Definition of Vehicles. "Vehicles" includes automobiles, buses, campers, trucks, tractors, scooters, motorcycles, mopeds, golf carts, all terrain vehicles (ATVs) and trailers.

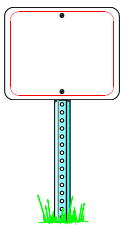
Section 34-23 Parking Permits Required for Roads, Easements or Designated Parking Areas. No vehicle may stop, stand or park in the Town other than for emergencies or when legally required, unless the operator is a Town property owner with a current Parking Permit permanently affixed to their vehicle, or the vehicle displays a visible Guest, Contractor or Renter Parking Permit.

Vehicles without a valid Parking Permit may be issued a Parking Violation Summons and/or Towed at the owner's expense. No parking permit is required to attend a scheduled party, event or meeting at the Town Hall or Clubhouse. No overnight parking is allowed on any road from 1AM through 7AM, unless the Security Office has issued a written permit.

Section 34-24 Designated (off-road) Parking Locations. a) East Road - Tennis court and Town Hall areas, b) Ridge Road - Beach parking area, c) Beach Drive - Beach parking area, d) West Road - Beach parking area, e) Hill Road - Beach parking area, f) Clubhouse - Upper and lower parking areas and g) Security Office - Rear parking area.

Section 34-26, 27 & 28 Guest, Contractor and Renter Parking Permits. Only Property Owners who have been issued a current Parking Permit may obtain a such a Parking Permit from the Security Office and must obtain such a permit. See the ordinance for exact details.

DA SIGNS GET UPGRADED



You have no doubt noticed some changes with the signs in DA. The rusty old street signs and dilapidated wooden signs are on their way out to make room for new, modern ones. All of our signs -- over 100 in total -- are being replaced; a few are being eliminated. The signs were to have been installed by now but the mounting brackets have been back ordered. With any luck, all of the signs will be up and running by the end of the month.

My wife, Linda, and I did the designs for all of the signs. Bob Hartmann and Ray Tittle have painstakingly stained all the posts. Bob, Ray, Bill Nixon, Harold King and Mike Konopacki have removed the existing signs/posts and will be installing the new signage as soon as its available. You may appreciate the fact that all of the street and traffic control signs will now be uniform in height and position. One goal is to make it much easier for our guests to find their way around town.

Jeffrey Swoger

SNAKES ON THE BEACH!

Recently a report was going around that DA may have had a cobra, as in a snake, slithering about terrorizing folks. Real snake. Mistaken identity. The snake was indeed suggestive of a hooded cobra but the innocent culprit was merely a common and commonly found *Heterodon platyrhinos* ... or Eastern Hognose. It is non-poisonous to humans and rarely bites... unless you're a toad.

Yes, fear of snakes is exceeded only by fear of public speaking. The fear factor in this guy's case revolves around that fact that as a prime defense mechanism, the Eastern Hognose can flatten its head to look like a cobra. Loud and prolonged hissing is accompanied by short jabs with the head as often away from the attacker as toward it. Hognose bites originating from anger or defense are rare. If the attacker continues to press upon the hognose, it will open its mouth, writhe as if in pain and finally roll onto its back with its mouth open and tongue hanging out. It cannot be induced to move. If it is righted, it immediately rolls onto its back again. Not until the snake feels safe will it right itself and continue on with its normal activities. Academy award winning material.

Adult Eastern Hognoses are usually about 30" in length. Spotted specimens have a brown or yellow ground color with darker brown or black spots. These alternate with smaller dark spots on the sides. The blotches



may turn into rings on the tail, vaguely resembling rattles. There may be red or orange pigment

in the skin between the scales, and this pigment may occasionally infringe upon the scales themselves. Some populations and older adults are a solid color that may or may not have remnants of blotches. The ground

color on solid individuals may be black, gray, or olive.

Eastern hognose snakes are diurnal and actively hunt for food. They may be observed basking in early morning and again at dusk.

The bottom line: leave these snakes alone, please. They pose no threat to you. And, in fact, might put on a good show for you.
The Ed.

TOWN VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED



DA works -- and works pretty well -- because of volunteers. These folks do not get paid and, far more importantly, find and donate their *time*, our most precious resource. Too, *you* should consider stepping up to the plate to make a difference. (You know, a person always has time for what he or she wants to have time.)

Town Council: Ben Bolton, Lou Roberts and John Wilhelm

Town Planning Commission: Ben Bolton, Tom Cornwell, Bill Nixon, John Norris, Joan Rearick, Lou Roberts, John Sullivan and John Wilhelm

Board of Zoning Appeals: Tom Cornwell, Bob Hartmann, John Norris, Jeffrey Swoger and Bonnie Thomas

Clubhouse: Rick Demkovich, Margo Hartmann, Beverly Hubbs, Tom Roberts and Dianne Swygert

Environmental Advisory Board: Cathy Bomberger, Cecilia Call, Irv Call, Doreen Crewe, Ruth Osann, Barbara Plampin, Sue Smith and Tim Ritchie

Gardeners: Cathy Bomberger, Doreen Crewe, Joyce Person, Sue Smith, Dianne Swygert, Jean Tonner and Nancy Wilhelm

Grant Writing: Cheryl Evans

Historical Commission: Mary Ann Tittle and Grace Millman

Phone Directory: Mary Ann Crayton and Shirley Hull

Website: Howard Silverman

Commissioners

Beach: Rob Carstens; George Smith, Asst

Building: John Sullivan

Environmental: Cheryl Evans

Fire: Mark Hull

Maintenance: Mike Konopacki

Municipal Code: Bill Nixon

Park: Kellie Klein; Don Gourley, Asst

Police: Cecelia Call

Pump House: Jeffrey Swoger

Road: Irv Call

DA Civic Improvement Foundation (DACIF):

Ben Bolton, Rick Demkovich, Jane Dickey,

Jim Flynn, Susan Grimm, Anne Murphy, Lou

Roberts, Howard Silverman, John Sullivan,

Linda Swoger, Dana Treister and John

Wilhelm

Extra special thanks to Bill Nixon and Beach Commissioner Carstens for clearing the path from the East Beach Parking Lot to the beach. They spent over 20 hours doing so... *The Ed.*

Last but not least, thanks goes to all of the folks that contributed to the Spring *Beachcomber*. Without you, the Beachcomber wouldn't be, Allison Bradshaw, Ben Bolton, Rob Carstens, Mary Ann Crayton, Jane Dunne, Cheryl Evans, Diane & Harry Mark Petrakis, Lou Roberts, Howard Silverman, Sue Smith, Linda Swoger, Mary Ann Tittle, Dan Vittum and, as always, John Wilhelm. *The Ed.*

TOTE YOUR OWN BAG



Join Oprah and Martha, and "Go Green." Whether you are headed to the grocery store, the beach, a vacation, the library or the European Market, this sturdy bag comes in handy for carrying lots of stuff around. It measures 14½" x 16" and is machine

washable.

The Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation is selling these bags for \$8 each or two for \$15. The profits will go toward the restoration of the DA Clubhouse.

To purchase one or more, contact me,
Linda Swoger at 787-5156. Call today --
Quantities Limited! *Linda Swoger*

Beachcomber Sponsorship

This issue of *The Beachcomber* is being sponsored by Laura Hagen.

Thank you, Laura, for your generous and much appreciated support!

Ms. Hagen's tax deductible donation of \$100 supports the printing costs of this newsletter. Leftover funds are used by the Dune Acres Civic Improvement Foundation to enhance and advance all aspects of life in our unique community.

If you wish to sponsor an upcoming issue of *The Beachcomber*, please make your check payable to the DACIFI (not to me!) and send it to Howard Silverman.

BEYOND DUNE ACRES

GETTING HERE GETS EASIER, CHEAPER

Electronic tolling (Indiana is calling it "I-Zoom") is scheduled to come to the Indiana Toll Road in NW Indiana on June 25. I-Zoom transponders will be for sale starting June 15. Transponders will cost \$10 plus a \$1/month fee. Purchase details to be announced. *But the Illinois Tollway's I-PASS as well as EZ-Passes issued by other states will be honored on the Indiana Toll Road.*

The Indiana Toll Road will not have "open road tolling" such as that on the Illinois Tollway, where cars do not have to slow down as they pass beneath the tolling devices spanning several lanes. Toll booths and gates will remain in place; vehicles will have to slow to 15 mph in I-Zoom lanes, similar to the system in place on the Chicago Skyway.

NW Indiana will be the first segment of the Toll Road to get electronic tolling, starting at the Portage toll booth (mile 23) and be operational to the Illinois state line; the entire tollway by November. That will trigger new, higher tolls and the I-Zoom discounts. I-PASS holders will get the Toll Road discount. Excerpted, Keith Benman, 6/6/07, NWI Times

LOCAL SHIFTING, SHRINKING DUNE

Also known as Mount Baldy, this really huge pile of sand is located just off the lake

between Beverly Shores and the Michigan City NIPSCO power plant. Did you know that this dune is on the move ... inland ... at about four feet per year? Over the past 69 years Mount Baldy has moved more than 1,300 feet.

Besides moving, it's also shrinking. In 1938, Mount Baldy was more than 3,900 feet long; by 1972, it was only 2,000 feet long. Furthermore, Mount Baldy wasn't always bald. At one time, it was covered in forest growth, and remnants of tree stumps can still be seen buried in the dune. As recently as 1973, the west side of the dune was fairly stabilized by beach grass. Excerpted, Contact Diane Krieger Spivak, Post Tribune, 5/7/07

Things change dramatically, naturally but usually not so quickly. For example, a mile-thick sheet of ice covered DA ... about 18,000 years ago Talk about global warming! But because sand is so liquid and the winds off the lake often so strong and consistent, it should come as little surprise that Mount Baldy is changing so quickly, geologically speaking. Nonetheless tax dollars are being sought to fund a study of how humans may be impacting the changing nature of this dune.

[Regular readers of The Beachcomber have perhaps noticed that nearly every issue has had an article or two about Lake Michigan. Sure the lake is nearly as much a part of DA as our woods, wetlands and dunes are. But beyond that, the lake impacts our lives hugely -- providing the water we drink to live, the swimming, fishing and boating recreation we enjoy, a resource for industry, the highway for many of the products we use, weather systems and even visual beauty. The Ed.]

TROUT ARE REAPPEARING

MUSKEGON, Michigan -- A half-century after once-plentiful lake trout disappeared from Lake Michigan, the fish appears to be making a comeback. Scientists recently discovered evidence that lake trout are reproducing on their own on a deep water reef in the middle of the lake. The finding is significant because the fish has not reproduced on its own in Lake Michigan since the 1950s, when sea lamprey decimated the species. But scientists have found no evidence that the fish are living long enough to become juveniles or mature fish. Until lake trout can reproduce on their own and reach maturity, the species will not be considered on the road to recovery.

Government agencies have continued to stock lake trout in Lake Michigan for the past 40 years, putting in about 2 million of the fish in the lake last year alone. But unlike salmon,

which reproduce naturally in rivers that flow into Lake Michigan, lake trout have failed to recover yet. AP 12/27/2006

ENVIRONMENTAL ITEMS

THE TOWN CLEAN UP

While a few sprinkles of rain gave an initial scare, the May 5 Town Clean Up turned out spectacular. Attendance was down a bit



from last year, but an upbeat attitude offset the slightly fewer numbers. In all, we scared up some 20 bags of garlic mustard, bittersweet, and litter, hauled a big load of dead brush and logs to the

compost pile, and sent countless numbers of tree of heavens back to their maker.

Under the direction of Parks Commissioner Kellie Klein, we also spruced up some of the park equipment with a fresh coat of paint and tackled the hockey liner. The hockey liner job receives my vote for worst job of the day. It was downright nasty! That didn't stop Ben Bolton, Irv Call, Mike Konopacki, Max Carstens, Patti Carstens, Rob Carstens, and Chip Dickey from diving into the abyss. Big thanks!!

Scheduling conflicts always make event attendance a hit or miss thing. A number of parties who were unable to make the scheduled event, such as John, Marie & Wesley Slaughter as well as John & Nancy Wilhelm, nonetheless, showed their support by collecting bags of garlic mustard in advance of the Clean Up. What a wonderful way to demonstrate a commitment to helping to make this Town a better place. This Town runs on volunteer power, and it is always amazing to see it in action.

Thank you to:

Painters—Jan Bapst, Alex Rosenblum, and Forrest Evans.

Truckers & Tree of Heaven Dispatchers—John Sullivan and Bob Evans.

Litter Getters & Garlic Mustard Killers—Margo Hartmann, John & Marge Saphir, Shirley Hull, Bobbi & Dick Taylor, Madge Kollar, Carol Cornwell, MaryAnn & John Crayton, Cecilia Call, Cathy & Pete Bomberger, Mary Ann Tittle, and Heidi, Marissa & Cara Sullivan. My apologies if I overlooked someone.

Madge's yard, incidentally, looks great. Over a number of days, I watched her work many hours straight in the hot sun taking out bittersweet—which is a real back killer. Great job Madge!

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped make the Town Clean Up a success.

Cheryl Evans

Environmental Commissioner

LYME GRASS

Lyme grass (*Leymus arenarius*) is native to Eurasia and closely related to the northern boreal species, *Leymus mollis*. It has arrived at the Indiana Dunes, discovered at Miller Dunes on July 11, 2003. This species has the great potential to alter the vegetation and dynamics of the sand dune ecosystem.

It has a beautiful blue/green leaf, larger in size compared to the native dune beach or marram grass and has large seed heads. It is sold as an ornamental grass; our local Chesterton Feed Store had it in stock, but with informing them of the aggressive nature of the grass and its potential of escaping into our Dunes, Chuck Roth notified us that he would not carry it! Thank you Chuck!

Last summer the Environmental Committee spotted and herbicided five populations of Lyme grass on the DA beaches; so far those populations have not come back.

Please help us keep our beaches and our native dunes free of invasive plants. We *are* in a *special* place. If you spot such clumps of grass that fits the description of Lyme grass, (or you're not too sure about it) contact Cheryl Evans or a member of the Environmental Committee. We will try to help you out. For more information go to www.uwgb.edu/biodiversity/herbarium/invasive_species/leyare01.htm.
Sue Smith

TREE BEETLE CONTINUES TO SPREAD

MADISON, Wisconsin (AP) — The emerald ash borer has already infested trees in more than 1,200 cities and townships in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, and continues to spread across the east-central United States. This bug is a tiny, metallic green beetle that feeds on the layer of wood just beneath the bark of the ash tree, cutting off water and nutrients and killing the tree. Native to Asia, it was first discovered in the Detroit area in 2002, probably arriving in wood packing crates. In Indiana, the borer has been confirmed here locally.

To combat its spread, the USDA has imposed a quarantine in states with the beetle that prevents host materials such as firewood, bark and wood chips from crossing state lines.

Additional defensive measures include

- Warning people not to bring in firewood from out-of-state
- Encouraging landowners to thin their ash trees
- Using pesticides
- Chopping down infected stands

Excerpted, Todd Richmond, AP, 5/2/2007

SOCIALLY SPEAKING



THE ANNUAL DUNE ACRES INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

... will take place on July 7 this year. Invitations and reservation forms were put in your mailbox about a week ago but may also be found on the DA web site.

The day will begin at 7:45 with the 3K Walk/5K Run. The first 60 participants will receive commemorative T-shirts and all participants will be treated to snacks at the finish line. Carol & Tom Cornwell will be there bright and early to get everything off to a good start.

Then, at 10:30, go to the Town Hall and decorate yourself, your bike, wagon, or car for the Grand Parade that will begin at 11:30. Or come at 11:00 to prepare to march or to join the kazoo band. (Brand new, unused kazoos will be available!) Dusty & Alex Stemer are orchestrating the parade and are also organizing an Automobile Concours that will be on display in the East Beach parking lot after the parade. (See article immediately following this one. The Ed.) Spectators are also needed. Line up along East Rd between Crest and Beach Drives to cheer on the parade. And maybe get some treats!!!

During the parade staging, participants will be able to purchase tickets for the Hot Dog Roast that will enable them to go directly to the food pick-up line at the beach. Roberta & Richard Taylor will have hot dogs and brats—hot off the grill—ready when the parade ends. There will also be chips, beer, soda, water and ice cream for sale.

It will be a fun-filled afternoon on the beach with games for young and old organized by Kellie & Todd Klein. Beginning at 1:00, you, your family and friends can take part in the water balloon toss, hula hoop contest, tug of war and many more contests. Show your artistic talent by sculpting a creation for the sand building contest, open to all ages.

Judging will be at 3:00. Prizes will be given to the winners of the games and the sand building contest.

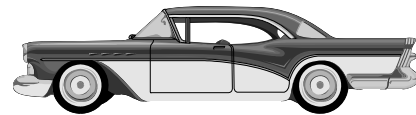
The annual Women's Round Robin will be held at 2:00 at the Tennis Courts. (Mixed Doubles – Sunday morning at 9:00) Lois & Bill Nixon are in charge of the Tennis Tournaments. (For more details, see the article that follows this one. The Ed.)

However you spend your day, plan to come to the Clubhouse for the Social Hour that will begin at 5:30. Marco the Magician will entertain the children and there will be a cash bar for the adults. Emilie & Linus Schrage are working with Nelson's Catering to provide a scrumptious buffet dinner at 6:30. (Adults \$20, Children \$8, under 5 free.) All tables will be reserved and reservations are limited. Reservations MUST be received by Sunday, July 1. Please take them to the Security Office or send to Linda Swoger, 5 Cypress Lane.

The fabulous day will end with inspiring fireworks on the beach, beginning at dusk, under the supervision of Ruth & Ben Bolton.

Whether you take part in one activity or all of the day's events, come and be a part of this great DA tradition. See you there!

Linda & Jeffrey Swoger
787-5156 or linda@swogerco.com



SEEKING INTERESTING CARS

If you have an interesting car, sports car, vintage car, luxury car, convertible, hot rod or dune buggy, please bring it to our Independence Day parade of July 7th. All makes are welcome, as it would be very nice to have several Porsches, BMW's, Mercedes, Jaguars and the like, of different ages.

This year, I would like to organize the event a bit differently, with all cars that have automatic transmissions and can idle going off first. Then, depending upon participation, I would like to have clusters of similar cars of different vintage run in tandem, at low speed but without stopping on the hills.

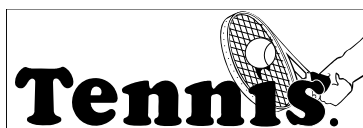
If we get enough participation, I believe we can have a visually interesting parade that can accommodate cars that have a hard time stopping and starting uphill. Please call me to ask any questions, let me know if you can participate, and what you might be bringing.

Thanks, *Alex Stemer* (787-8865)

TENNIS TOURNAMENT TIME!

In just a few short weeks it will be tennis tournament time again in Dune Acres. So get the racquet restrung, get in shape and get in some court time. The Women's Round Robin will be Saturday, July 7th @ 2 PM. The Mixed Doubles will be Sunday, July 8th @ 9 AM. It only costs \$10 per racquet to enter. Since this tournament is for DA residents and their guests, find a partner (non-pro ringers accepted), and save the date(s). If you do not have a partner, I will pair you up with someone. To enter, call me, Bill Nixon, at 787-9243 by July 6th. Tournament coverage will be on ESPN and sponsored by AARP.

Bill Nixon – Tournament Director



FIREWORKS!

For the 6th year in a row, Ben & Ruth Bolton are arranging to have a professionally produced fireworks display to cap our annual Independence Day Celebration. Our safe, spectacular production will last 25 minutes and cost \$5,500. As in the past, we are asking for individual contributions to cover the costs. Even though you were asked to drop your tax-deductible contribution off at the Security Office by June 2, I imagine any late donations will be gladly accepted. The Ed.



“GRAZIE” TO THE COMMITTEE

A party is only as much fun as those who help put it together, and with Primavera, the Spring Cocktail party, we had so much good – and good natured – assistance, we couldn't miss! Our sincere thanks to the following committee members who lent their time and talents.



Party Goers!

Invitation Distribution, Promotion, Responses and Reception

Howard Silverman - Coordinator, Kazys & Maria Ambrozaitis, Chuck Hayes, Madge Kollar, Joyce Person and John & Tina Read

Bar

John Sullivan - Coordinator, John Ebersole, Mike Swygert and Michael Treister

Set-Up

Marti & Tony Belluschi and Mike Lapinski

Music

Heidi Sullivan

Food

Maria Ambrozaitis, Susan Ebersole, Joan Hayes, Madge Kollar, Darlene Lipinski, Joyce Person, Margaret Saphir, Lynda Silverman, Heidi Sullivan and Dana Treister

And to everyone who stayed late and helped clean up. Grazia Mille!

Jane Dunne and Susan Grimm

HEADS UP: YOUTH TENNIS LESSONS

Once again Bob Hartmann is offering tennis lessons to DA's youth, probably in July but the details still need to be worked out.

Kellie Klein



RESIDENT NEWS

Charles V. Norris, **John's father**, passed away on May 20, 2007. He was 87. John's mother, Joyce, preceded her husband in death. He is survived by children, Chris (Sharon) Norris of Longmont, Colorado; Patty (Steve) Jahns of Lawrenceville, Georgia; Brian (Laurie) Norris and John (Bette) Norris of Dune Acres. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Adam, Abby, Ian, Aubree and Brett Norris.

Bette (Miles) Norris is retiring from teaching. Starting her career teaching Latin, she was most recently teaching English to 7th graders at Chesterton Middle School. About teenagers, she found them to be “fun, unpredictable, sometimes annoying, kind generous but most often, in la la land.” Amen. Bette plans to sleep in, read a lot of books, lounge on the beach, and visit her many friends throughout the country. Best wishes, Bette. And, if you can read this, thank an English teacher...

End of School Year News: **Cara Sullivan** just finished second grade. She earned an Accelerated Reading trophy. In this program the students read books, take tests, and accumulate points.

LOCAL COLOR

VOYAGEURS FOR A DAY?

Back in the day of the French voyageur, the Coureur du Bois and various Indian tribes used some of our local streams as their super highways. The river was the way to travel. In particular, the Little Calumet saw a lot of use, though it certainly would never have been confused with westbound I80/94 on a Sunday night during the summer.

Bob and I are planning on retracing the travels of some of the local fur traders in our kayaks. Any interested parties are welcome to join us. Just give us a call.

This adventure might be great fun or one of the stupider ideas I've had. Since we don't own a chainsaw to blaze our way past fallen trees and my idea of a heavy workout is walking down to East beach and back, we're not envisioning anything too aggressive. The itinerary is still subject to change.

One idea is to kayak down (or up) Salt Creek to the Little Calumet River. In 1836, a bridge called the "ever-to-be-remembered-by-those-who-crossed-it" bridge or "Terrifying Long Bridge" was built where those two rivers meet. In terms of fear factor, apparently this bridge surpassed the wooden bridge that used to cross the railroad tracks at Highway 130 and 475 West in Valparaiso; do you remember that interesting, not-for-the-faint-of-heart bridge? I don't know if anything might be left of Long Bridge but it might be fun to look.

Cheryl Evans

RULES? HUH!

Dear Editor,

I thought you should know how a lot of us are feeling these days about all the new rules and regulations.

Why, when I grew up here in Dun Achin' we didn't have a lot of rules and regulations. Didn't need 'em! Who needs 'em now? I mean – put my dog on a leash to go for a walk on the beach? C'mon – old Rufus needs to run and jump and scare away all those sea gulls. Hey he hasn't really bitten anyone for years ... and that little baby was hardly scratched – but she sure did put up a big fuss, over nothing at all. And have to take away his poo? Why those

birds leave more poo that old Rufus ever thought of. And what about not leaving cigarette butts down there? I'm supposed to take them home with me? For years we've been burying them in the sand. Everyone knows - I've read the reports – that those butts will be dust in just 12 years. Government Reports say so. And what about those 20 MPH regulations for in-town driving? And 30 on that straight away out of town? That straight away was meant for good solid driving! Anyways, that one time? I doubled braked and missed that doe by a good foot or two. And what's this about needing some kind of a "beach sticker?" I've been parking down there for 30 years. I live here. It's my town I don't need any sticker. Nuts to all these rules and regulations.

**Sincerely,
Chas Goodguy**

Ed Note: We've encouraged Chas to write us anytime with his thoughts. He says he will just as soon as he is shed of some \$210 in fines and can get his car back from the tow-away service.

PERSONALS

WORK WANTED!

We are looking for jobs. These are our current customers and the work that we have done. Our rates are flexible.

Satisfied customers include Mrs. Dunne, Mrs. Jan Bapst, Mrs. Carlson, Mrs. Hand, Mrs. Swoger, Mrs. Crayton, Mrs. Sue Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm

Work includes watering indoor and outdoor plants, bringing in the mail and newspapers, sending bills on to Chicago, checking house in cold weather, caring for dogs, cats, and birds, pulling weeds and sweeping driveways.

Marissa / Cara Sullivan at 787-1622

BOOKS OF INTEREST

With the landmark release of *Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants*, Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG) presents the first-ever double issue in the acclaimed All Region Guide series. In 1996, BBG published the groundbreaking handbook *Invasive Plants: Weeds of the Global Garden*, the first comprehensive publication to identify North American's worst invasive plants, and for years readers have asked for a companion volume featuring ecologically safe alternatives. *Native Alternatives to Invasive Plants* is an indispensable guide for everyone who loves

dazzling gardens and cares about the health of North America's natural landscapes. It is available at a discount from BBG online store at www.bbg.org or by calling 718/623-7286, and in bookstores for \$9.95 *Mary Ann Crayton*

MUSIC in NATURE CONCERT SERIES

The Taltree Arboretum & Gardens is presenting its 2007 Music in Nature Concert Series. Located at the Joseph E Meyer Memorial Pavilion, 450W 100N, Valparaiso, the remaining concerts include:

- The Northwest Indiana Symphony (June 15th, 6:30pm)
- Peter Aglinskis (June 17, 3pm)
- Chris & Lou of Electric X (July 20th, 6:30pm)
- Kennedy's Kitchen (July 22nd, 3pm)
- Keenan Baxter (August 17th, 6:30pm)
- The Northwest Indiana Symphony (August 19th, 3pm)
- The Special Consensus (September 21st, 6:30pm)
- Flintlock (September 23rd, 3pm)

\$5 admission to non-members; Free to Taltree members and children five and under.

www.taltree.org.

Cathy Bomberger

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

"OUR STREETS ARE OUR SIDEWALKS"

Please drive accordingly. Thanks.

ALWAYS RESPECT THE LAKE

When your guests, kids and grandkids are at the beach this summer, impress on them that Lake Michigan can be as deadly treacherous as it is tremendously fun to play in. Recall that just last summer a hundred yards east of here at Porter Beach, a 15 year old boy drowned while playing in the rollicking fun waves with his friends. The tragedy played out in a matter of minutes.

The water temperature was a warm 72°F and the water wasn't very deep, Gene Davis, a conservation officer with the Dunes National Resources, said, but added it would be very easy for anyone to drown in these conditions. He said the sand isn't level and it wouldn't be surprising to take a step and drop from 3 feet of water to 7 feet. "They will gasp and get a mouthful of water," he said, explaining how it's possible for a good

swimmer to drown. "That starts the drowning process."

Ref: Post Tribune and The Times, 7/05/06

About a dozen people drown along the Indiana Shores of Lake Michigan annually. The Ed.

NO PLACE FOR NUDITY

... OR OTHER ACTIVITIES!

The National Park Service recently increased patrols following an increase in reports of ... "public indecency." The Park management is working to eliminate these acts by increased enforcement actions within the National Lakeshore and using a variety of law enforcement methods, including surveillance technology, in an effort to curb this particular freedom of expression. Convictions will result in newspaper disclosure, a fine up to \$5,000 and/or six months in jail. All of you naturalists have been tipped off!

TICKS BE GONE!

If you don't like the idea of digging in and yanking a tick out of your skin (taking care get its head, too) or maybe the tick is on your back where you can't get a good grip, try applying a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Then cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball for about 30 seconds. The tick should release on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift the cotton ball away. If this doesn't work, you can always yank it out with tweezers, a tick remover or your finger nails if they're long enough.

O SAY CAN YOU SEE?

Under the new fireworks bill that Indiana Governor Daniels recently signed, local governments can regulate when fireworks are legal. City and town councils can outlaw firework usage -- on all but 13 days when the statute mandates specific hours fireworks must be legal. Those are: Between 5 pm and two hours after sunset on June 29, 30, and July 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9; from 10 am to midnight on July 4; and between the hours of 10 am and midnight on Dec. 31 and midnight and 1 am on Jan. 1. Clear enough, right?

The Town Council is in the process of drafting a new fireworks ordinance for DA. The Ed.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



EATING IN

by Jane Dunne

Steamy summer evenings and cooking don't mix – at least not in my kitchen. This hearty corn, ham, tomato and cheese salad is the perfect hot weather supper, requiring a little mixing, but no cooking! Serve it with some crusty bread and a chilled glass of Sauvignon Blanc. Chocolate ice cream with chocolate sprinkles would make a fine finish.

Corn Salad with Ham and Cheese (serves 6)

1 slice cooked, smoked ham from the deli, sliced about 1/2-inch thick, then cut into 1/2-inch cubes (about 2 cups)
1 to 2 slices Swiss cheese, cut into small cubes (about 1 cup)
4 to 6 celery heart stalks, finely diced (about 1-1/2 cups)
24 small pimento-stuffed green olives, cut in half crosswise
2 cups seeded and quartered cherry tomatoes
1 cup frozen corn kernels, thawed
3/4 cup finely chopped fresh parsley
1 cup coarsely chopped red onion
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
1 tablespoon wine vinegar
Salt and pepper
3/4 cup olive oil
1 teaspoon finely minced garlic

Combine ham, cheese, celery, olives, tomatoes, corn, parsley and onion in a large salad bowl. Set aside. Put the mustard in a small mixing bowl and add the vinegar and salt and pepper to taste. Blend with a wire whisk, gradually adding the oil. Stir in the garlic. Add the dressing to the salad and toss well. Serve immediately while everything is fresh.

Kitchen staples: Dijon mustard, wine vinegar, salt and pepper, olive oil and garlic

Shopping list:

1 slice (1/2" thick) cooked ham from the deli
1 pkg Swiss cheese, or buy 2 slices at the deli
1 bottle small pimento-stuffed olives (you need 24 olives)
4 to 6 celery heart stalks
1 small to medium-size red onion
1 box cherry tomatoes
1 package frozen corn kernels
1 bunch fresh flat-leaf parsley

Enjoy!

Jane's weekly food column, AT TABLE, has run in the Northwest Indiana Times newspapers since 1996. Jane also has written numerous features on food and dining for both LAKE and SHORE magazines.



SHIPWRECKED!

Of an estimated 3,000 shipwrecks in Lake Michigan, 300 can be found in the southern basin.

There is ongoing study and research taking place at the site of a shipwreck off Ogden Dunes. An unknown ship is sometimes visible off Shore Drive and people have reported seeing it as long ago as the 1930s. Fluctuations in lake levels cause the remains to disappear or be covered with sand. Pictures showed what could be mistaken for the remains of a dock or pier extending out into the lake. About 90 feet long, it's known as No. 4 wreck for lack of identification. There is wool felt material throughout the wreckage and some speculate that it was used in the lumber trade.

The steamer Lady Elgin went down September 9, 1860. It was a luxurious passenger boat and was carrying members of the Union Guard on a trip from Milwaukee to Chicago to hear Stephen Douglas speak.

Other notable wrecks lost in the Indiana waters of Lake Michigan include:

- Side wheel Eureka lost in 1873 off Michigan City
- Passenger sailing ship David Dows which sank on Thanksgiving Day of 1880 off Whiting
- F. W. Wheeler went down three miles east of Michigan City in 1893
- J. D. Marshall* wrecked near the dunes on June 11, 1911 with four men lost
- The George F. Williams wrecked near Hammond in 1915
- The Fool Killer, a *submarine* built by Lodner Phillips of Michigan City in the mid 1800's

*The J. D. Marshall, a sand barge, sank north of Chesterton after taking on a load of sand. The barge was returning to deeper water when a leak was discovered. It shortly listed and capsized. *Excerpted, Chesterton Trib, 3/19/07*

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

- Cathy Bomberger's first name is spelled with a "C."
- The Town Council Meetings begin at 7pm. (Only the Planning Commission Meetings begin at 7:30pm.)

I sincerely apologize for these errors. The Ed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(This heart-felt letter was to have appeared in the Spring Issue. Sorry. The Ed.)

January 19, 2007 (via e-mail): I assume by the time the Spring *Beachcomber* publishes this will be stale news, but **Dona Wilkes** [her obituary appeared in the Winter '07 issue. The Ed.], who we knew only very casually, was a VERY important person in the

life of my family, although she never knew it... She arranged a series of occasional "Dune Acres Film Festival" evenings while she and Del lived here, up at the Clubhouse, with films she selected. One "festival" was held in October, 1984, just three months after we moved into our first Dune Acres home. I don't remember what the films were that evening, but I do remember that while the adults enjoyed the screenings, the teens gradually migrated outside. It was there and then that my son Jeremy met his wife Rachel -- they were both 13½ at the time! The rest is history. They've been married 12½ years, and are the parents of our three beautiful grandchildren. ALL (well, at least in part...) because of Dona Wilkes and the Film Festival organized in October, 1984! We are all grateful to Dona, and hope she had a good life after she left this area, so many years ago.

DANA TREISTER

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Monthly Public Meetings (you're welcomed and encouraged to attend)

2nd Mon	Plan Commission	Town Hall	7:30pm
3rd Tue	Town Council	Town Hall	7:00pm

June 30 Relay for Life Meeting, Town Hall, 10am

July 2 Deadline to register to run for a DA office (See article on page 1)

July 7 Dune Acres Independence Day Celebration (See full article on page 7)

7:45am	3K Walk/5K Run at Town Hall
10:30am	Decorate yourself, your bike, wagon, or car at Town Hall
11:00am	Kazoo Band assembles at Town Hall
11:30am	Grand Parade Starts at Town Hall
Noon	Automobile Concours at the East Beach parking lot
	Hot Dog Roast at East Beach
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Water balloon toss, hula hoop contest, tug of war & other contests
	Sand building contest
2:00pm	The annual Women's Round Robin at the tennis courts (Mixed Doubles @ 9am on Sunday. See article on page 8)
3:00pm	Sand building Judging
5:30pm	Social Hour at The Clubhouse w/Marco the Magician for the kids
6:30pm	Buffet Dinner - Reservations Required
Dusk	Fireworks! On the Beach

July 8 Mixed Doubles, 9am (see article on page 8)

July 13 - 14 Dune Acres Relay for Life, Chesterton Middle School (See article on page 1)

Parting Thought... Without integrity, a person has nothing.

The Beachcomber is published seasonally about mid January, March, June and September. The current issue may be viewed on-line at www.duneacres.org. All information, news, creative contributions, articles, reports, corrections, suggestions, Letters to the Editor, art work, comments and otherwise are welcomed and encouraged. *The Beachcomber* is not an official publication of either the town of Dune Acres or the DACIF, Inc. All content is believed to be reasonably accurate and reliable. I may be reached by phone: at home 787-9210 or at work 219-852-3200 x304; FAX: 219-931-6487; e-mailed: bevans@horizonpublishing.com Thanks. Bob Evans 6/15/07